

DISTRICT DIGEST

Annual Cooperator Banquet- Save the date!

In this Issue:

Cover Crop -2

Cover Crop, *continued* -3

Great Frederick Fair -3

George A. Nicholson, Sr. Memorial Scholarship -4

Coloring Contest Winners -5

Farm Credit Outstanding District -5

Mark your calendars! The FCSCD Annual Cooperator Banquet will be held on November 19th at the New Midway Volunteer Fire Company. Reservations for this event will be available in October, so be on the lookout for the mailing to reserve your seat. We look forward to honoring our Cooperator of the Year and celebrating this year's achievements.



MD Horse Industry Board Grant

In a press release from the Maryland Department of Agriculture on August 1st, the Maryland Horse Industry Board announced it is accepting applications for its 2026 grants now through October 4th. Grants, averaging \$1,000.00, support educational, promotional, and research projects that strengthen Maryland's equine community. Funding comes from the Maryland Feed Fund, which collects \$6 per ton of horse feed sold in the state.

Applications must be submitted via Google Forms. Proposals aligning with priorities identified at Maryland Horse Forums will receive special consideration. Eligible applicants include (*but not limited to*) nonprofits, clubs, businesses, licensed farms, schools, and government entities. Grants are capped at \$2,000 with recipients announced by January 1, 2026. Projects must be completed by June 30, 2026.



For more details and guidelines please visit mda.maryland.gov/horseboard or contact Anne Litz, Executive Director of the Maryland Horse Industry Board, at (667)-408-0407 or via email anne.litz@maryland.gov.

**Frederick County
Soil Conservation District**

**92 Thomas Johnson Drive,
Suite 200
Frederick, MD 21702**

(301)-383-8782



Cover Crop- Fall Certification

DID YOU KNOW?

SEED REQUIREMENTS

- Deadline: Homegrown seed must be submitted to the MD State Seed Testing Lab by October 1st, 2025.
- Seed must have a **minimum germination rate of 80%**, be free of prohibited noxious weed seeds, and have no more than 16 restricted noxious weeds per pound.

ELIGIBLE COVER CROP SPECIES

- Cereal Grains: Wheat/spelt, rye, barley, triticale, oats, and ryegrass
- Brassicas: Forage radish and canola/rape (must be in a mix)
- Legumes: Clover, winter peas, and hairy vetch (must be planted with a cereal grain as part of a mix)

2025/2026 Approved Cover Crop Seeding Rate Chart for Mixes

Incorporated Seeding Rates

All mixes must contain at least one species from the second column (darker shaded)

Cover Crop Species	Seeding Rate for Single Species (in pounds)	Minimum 1 bushel of Cereal Grain in 2-way mix or 3-way mixes shown in pounds	If mixing a 2-way mix choose one from column 2 and one from this column	If mixing a 3-way mix choose one from column 2 and two from this column
Oats	90	45	45	23
Barley	90	48	45	23
Rye	90	56	45	23
Triticale	90	56	45	23
Wheat/Spelts	90	60	45	23
Ryegrass	24	24	12	6
Canola/Rape (only as part of a mix)	XXX	XXX	3	2
Forage Radish (only as part of a mix)	XXX	XXX	4	2
Clover (only as part of a mix)	XXX	XXX	8	4
Hairy Vetch (only as part of a mix)	XXX	XXX	10	5
Winter Peas (only as part of a mix)	XXX	XXX	23	11

Cover crop planting deadline on page 3

FALL MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

- After becoming well established, eligible cover crops may be grazed or chopped for on-farm livestock forage.
- **NEW!** Fields receiving fall manure must be planted by 10/10.
- For fields receiving fall manure the base payment is \$25/acre. No additional incentives apply.

CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT

- To receive payment, you must certify your cover crop with the FCSCD within one week of planting and by November 12, 2025.

2025/2026 Cover Crop Species & Planting Deadline			
Please note all planting methods can begin August 1st			
Cover Crop Species	Incorporated Planting Deadline	Aerial Planting Deadline	*BCSC, **BCCP Planting Deadline
Oats	10/10	10/10	10/10
Barley	10/15	10/10	10/15
Rye	11/05	10/10	10/15
Triticale	11/05	10/10	10/15
Wheat/Spelts	11/05	10/10	10/15
Ryegrass	10/15	10/10	10/15
Canola/Rape (only as part of a mix)	10/10	10/10	10/10
Forage Radish (only as part of a mix)	10/10	10/10	10/10
Clover (only as part of a mix)	10/10	10/10	10/10
Hairy Vetch (only as part of a mix)	10/10	10/10	10/10
Winter Peas (only as part of a mix)	10/10	10/10	10/10

*BCSC- Broadcast/stalk chopping. Must use aerial seeding rate.

**BCCP- Broadcast/cultipacker. Must use aerial seeding rate.

The Great Frederick Fair

The Great Frederick runs from September 12th to September 20th. We are 'egg-cited' to participate again this year. Come find our booth in the City Streets, Country Roads exhibit and learn about soil texture.





2025 George A. Nicholson Sr., Memorial Scholarship

The FCSCD annually awards the George A. Nicholson, Sr. Memorial Scholarship to deserving students who are interested in pursuing an education toward a career related to renewable natural resources, land use, and/or conservation.

The 2025 George A. Nicholson, Sr. Memorial Scholarship was awarded to four deserving students.

Meet the 2025 Scholarship Recipients:

- **Annalise Abruzzese**



Kansas State University

Annalise is preparing to study Parks Management and Conservation at Kansas State University.

- **Jackson Savage**



Garrett College

Jackson will attend Garrett College, focusing on Natural Resources and Wildlife Technologies.

- **Luke Jolles**



University of Maryland

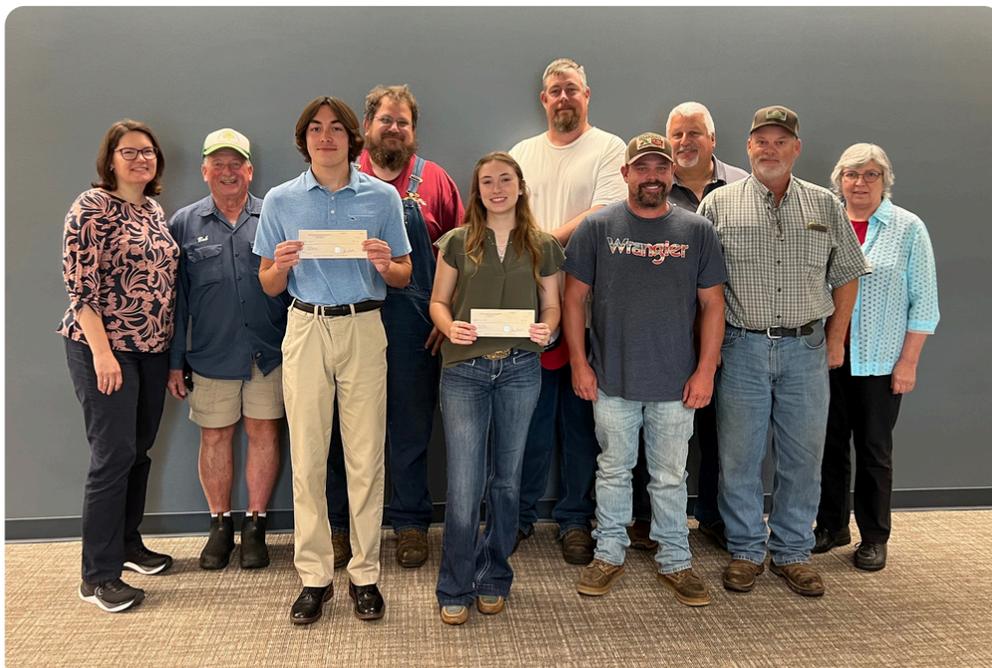
Luke is set to attend the University of Maryland, majoring in Environmental Science and Technology.

- **Megan Downing**



Delaware Valley University

Megan is currently attending Delaware Valley University, where she is studying Agribusiness.



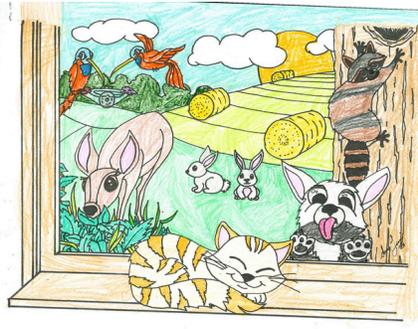
Above: (L-R) Heather Hutchinson, Bobby Black, Luke Jolles, Benjamin Sowers, Megan Downing, Millard 'Wes' Shafer, Matt Ahalt, John Falkenstein, Scott Hipkins, Diane Flickinger

2025 Coloring Contest Winners

Frederick County elementary school students demonstrated their artistic powers through their submissions for the annual Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts (MASCD) coloring contest. We are grateful to the Johnsville Ruritan for judging the entries and selecting local winners to will represent Frederick County at the MASCD Annual Meeting. During the annual MASCD meeting on August 5th, Penelope H. , was selected as 'First Place Overall' in 4th and 5th grades!



Calvin W.
Sabillasville Environmental School
1st Place; Class A (K- 1st Grade)



Sumathi D.
Centreville Elementary School
1st Place; Class B (2nd - 3rd Grade)



Penelope H.
Centreville Elementary School
1st Place; Class C (4th - 5th Grade)

MASCD Annual Meeting

District staff and supervisors attended the MASCD Annual Meeting held at Rocky Gap State Park and enjoyed the opportunity to engage with soil conservation districts from throughout the state and hear from specialist about a variety of conservation related topics.

The FCSCD was awarded the following:

- ★ Farm Credit Outstanding District for 2024, 3rd place
- ★ Benjamin Sowers received his '10 Year' service pin
- ★ John Falkenstein received his '5 Year' service pin
- ★ Penelope H., of Centreville Elementary, was 1st place overall in the 4th and 5th grade division for the coloring contest



- September 1, 2025 - OFFICES CLOSED; Labor Day
 - September 16, 2025 - Board of Supervisors Meeting (SCD Office)
 - October 21, 2025 - Board of Supervisors Meeting (SCD Office)
 - November 11, 2025 - OFFICES CLOSED; Veterans Day
 - November 19, 2025 - Annual Cooperators Banquet (New Midway VFC)
 - November 27-28, 2025 - OFFICES CLOSED; Thanksgiving Holiday
- Important Dates :**



**92 Thomas Johnson Drive, Suite 200
Frederick, MD 21702**

Board of Supervisors

Benjamin Sowers, *Chairman*
 Diane Flickinger, *Vice Chairman*
 John Falkenstein, *Treasurer*
 Millard 'Wes' Shafer, *Asst. Treasurer*
 Robert Black

District Staff

Heather Hutchinson, *District Manager*
 Kendra McAfee, *Soil Cons. Coordinator*
 David Stonesifer, *Urban Technician*
 Mark Matovich, *Urban Technician*
 Roger Thomas, *Urban Engineer*

MDA Staff

Holly Boyer, *Planner*
 Emily Doney, *Planner*
 Kaitlyn Fuss, *Planner*
 Cassidy Marquis, *Planner*
 William Rawlings, *Planner*
 Jason Watt, *Engineering Tech.*
 Mark Freese, *Technician*
 Cooper Sweeney, *Technician*
 Chris Zawitoski, *Technician*

NRCS Staff

Brent Cammauf, *District Conservationist*
 Teala Campbell, *Soil Conservationist*
 Grace Garst, *Soil Conservationist*
 Cara Green, *Soil Conservationist*
 Sean Daly, *Engineer*
 Matt Drury, *Civil Engineering Tech. (Regional)*
 Mark Buchholz, *Technician*
 Barry Feaga, *Technician*
 Jadie Buhrman, *Program Assistant*



Follow us on Facebook!

@FrederickCountySCD

The FCSCD prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, and marital or familial status